Circular No. 2, June 8, 1917.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
BUREAU OF EDUCATION.

THE WORK OF AMERICAN COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES DURING THE WAR.

A REPORT OF THE WORK OF THE EDUCATION SECTION OF THE COMMITTEE ON ENGINEERING AND EDUCATION OF THE ADVISORY COMMISSION OF THE COUNCIL OF NATIONAL DEFENSE.

A circular issued by the Bureau of Education on May 8, 1917, gave an account of a meeting of university and college administrators, held in Washington, May 5, under the auspices of the Advisory Commission of the Council of National Defense, to consider how higher institutions might cooperate most effectively with the Government during the war. The chairman of the meeting appointed at its close a permanent committee to serve as a special section of the Committee on Engineering and Education of the advisory commission of the Council of National Defense. The membership of the section is as follows:

Hollis Godfrey, Sc. D., member of the advisory commission of the Council of National Defense, president, Drexel Institute, chairman.

Henry E. Crampton, Ph. D., professor, Columbia University, vice chairman.

Frederick C. Ferry, Ph. D., dean, Williams College, secretary

Samuel P. Capen, Ph. D., specialist in higher education in the United States Bureau of Education, executive secretary.

Edwin A. Alderman, LL. D., president, University of Virginia.

Guy Potter Benton, LL. D., president, University of Vermont.

Kenyon L. Butterfield, LL. D., president, Massachusetts Agricultural College.

Augustus S. Downing, LL. D., assistant commissioner for higher education, University of the State of New York.

Wilson Farrand, M. A., headmaster, Newark Academy.

Guy S. Ford, Ph. D., director of the Division on Civic and Educational Cooperation of the Committee on Public Information.

Frank J. Goodnow, LL. D., president, Johns Hopkins University.

Edward K. Graham, LL. D., president, University of North Carolina.

Charles S. Howe, Ph. D., president, Case School of Applied Science.

Harry Pratt Judson, LL. D., president, University of Chicago.

A. Lawrence Lowell, LL. D., president, Harvard University.

Frank L. McVey, LL. D., president, State University of North Dakota.

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Alexander Meiklejohn, LL. D., president, Amherst College.
Joseph A. Mulry, Ph. D., president, Fordham University.
John S. Nollen, LL. D., president, Lake Forest College.
Raymond A. Pearson, LL. D., president, Iowa State College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts.
Winthrop E. Stone, LL. D., president, Purdue University.
Henry Suzzallo, Ph. D., president, University of Washington.
William O. Thompson, LL. D., president, Ohio State University.
Robert E. Vinson, LL. D., president, University of Texas.

The section has held three meetings, on May 6, 16, and 26. The summary of its action on certain important questions is herewith presented to the college and university officers of the United States.

THE MEETING OF MAY 6.

The resolutions adopted at the first meeting appear in Circular No. 1 (May 8, 1917) of this series. Because of their relation to subsequent steps taken by the section, however, they are reproduced here:

Resolved, That this committee advise all colleges and universities that all communications upon all questions relating to the present war emergency in which they are interested may be sent here to this committee, and that the committee will answer these communications or will request that they be answered by such other agencies as the officers of the committee, in cooperation with the Bureau of Education of the Department of the Interior and the States Relations Service of the Department of Agriculture, may select.

That the chairman of this committee be requested, in presenting to the advisory commission the resolutions adopted at the conference of May 5, 1917, to emphasize particularly the first item in the statement of principles.

That the Council of National Defense be requested to recommend to the Department of War the recruiting of men competent to give military instruction but ineligible for active service, and the detailing of such men for the giving of military instruction in the colleges and universities; and that, so far as possible, equipment be provided, in accordance with the provisions of the national defense act of June, 1916; and, further, that wherever it is impossible for a college to muster a unit of 100 men for military training it may be approved that for the purposes of military instruction two or three colleges may be served by a single instructor.

That the officers of the associations here represented communicate the above resolution at once to all the members of their respective associations.

MEETING OF MAY 16.

It was thought that many of the questions coming before the section concerned secondary schools almost as intimately as higher institutions. The section should consequently have the constant advice of a representative group of school officers. The following persons were therefore invited to serve as an advisory committee with respect to secondary school problems. It is the understanding of the section that the list will be added to later:

Robert J. Aley, president, University of Maine, president of the National Education Association.

Thomas W. Butcher, Kansas State Normal School.

C. P. Cary, State superintendent of public instruction, Madison, Wis.

C. E. Chadsey, superintendent of schools, Detroit, Mich.

R. J. Condon, superintendent of schools, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Arthur D. Dean, supervising officer of vocational education of the New York State Training Commission.

Wilson Farrand, head master, Newark Academy.

John C. Garber, superintendent of schools, Philadelphia, Pa.

J. Y. Joyner, State superintendent of public instruction, Raleigh, N. C.

Calvin N. Kendall, commissioner of education, Trenton, N. J.

J. H. Phillips, superintendent of schools, Birmingham, Ala.

Charles A. Prosser, director, Dunwoody Industrial Institute, Minneapolis, Minn.

J. H. Richards, S. J., Loyola School, New York.

J. D. Shoop, superintendent of schools, Chicago, Ill.

Payson Smith, commissioner of education, Boston, Mass.

Frank Thompson, assistant superintendent of schools, Boston, Mass.

The principal business of the meeting was the preparation of a detailed inquiry addressed to the War Department covering the questions relating to the giving of military instruction in the colleges. It is printed in full, together with the War Department's answers, under the report of the meeting of May 26.

MEETING OF MAY 26.

Many persons of highly expert qualifications have tendered their services to the Government through the chairman of this section. It was felt that the section should take steps at once to see that these offers are carefully considered and referred to the appropriate operating departments. As the section lacked facilities for undertaking such a task, it brought the matter to the attention of the Intercollegiate Intelligence Bureau, a voluntary organization under the chairmanship of Dean William McClellan, of the University of Pennsylvania. The Intercollegiate Intelligence Bureau expressed its readiness to cooperate with the section, and agreed to take over all offers of service and to inform the Civil Service Commission, the War Department, and other Government agencies of the qualifications and residences of persons fitted to perform special tasks. Students, officers, and graduates of colleges and universities who desire to place their services at the disposal of the Government for other than military duties are requested to address the Intercollegiate Intelligence Bureau, 309 Munsey Building, Washington, D. C.

The chairman reported that he had just returned from attendance at the convocation of Canadian universities and a meeting of the Royal Society, at Ottawa, and had there received assurance that the

following men, constituting a representative Canadian educational group would attend an early conference with this section:

Robert A. Falconer, president, University of Toronto.
Stanley McKenzie, president, Dalhousie University.
H. M. Tory, president, University of Saskatchewan.
Frank J. Adams, dean of the faculty of applied science, McGill University.
Ernest Marceau, principal, Polytechnic School of Laval University.

It is expected that this commission will inform the section of the experience of Canadian higher institutions during the war and, in the light of this experience, will advise the section as to the wisdom of certain general policies which have been or may be submitted for the consideration of American institutions.

THE COLLEGES AND THE WAR DEPARTMENT.

Two matters came before the meeting touching upon the relations between the colleges and the War Department. The first was the resolution, unanimously adopted by the section, as follows:

Resolved, That the chairman be requested to take up with the War Department the question of the desirability of having the colleges make recommendations as to the selection of college men for training camps whenever more eligible candidates are at hand than can be taken.

The second was the reply of the War Department to the inquiry submitted by the section at the close of its second meeting. The inquiry, together with the department's answer to each question, is given below. Although the questions are answered for the sake of clearness with brevity and somewhat categorically, the department assured the section of its very great appreciation of the patriotic spirit of the colleges and of its genuine eagerness to cooperate with them in every possible way as soon as the unusual pressure for equipment and training facilities caused by the sudden change from a peace to a war basis will permit. It pointed out that the training of men obtained by the selective draft and the training of officers for this new army, regardless of possible college membership, must for the present take precedence over all other matters. Nevertheless, it is the earnest desire of the War Department to provide for the military needs of the colleges also as soon and as fully as possible.

I. Will the War Department carry out the provisions of the national defense act of June 3, 1916, in the following particulars:

1. Will the War Department maintain the existing Reserve Officers' Training Corps units in the colleges?—Answer. Yes.
2. Will the War Department establish additional Reserve Officers' Training Corps units in the colleges at the present time?—Answer. No. No extension of Re-

serve Officers' Training Corps during the war unless conditions change materially and exhaust the supply of officers.

3. Will the War Department later establish additional Reserve Officers' Training Corps units in the colleges?—Answer. Yes.

II. Will the War Department modify General Orders 49 or issue other general orders to enable the colleges the better to meet the needs of the Government?—Answer. Revision of General Orders 49 is now being made. It is hoped that the Reserve Officers' Training Corps will be greatly improved and become a reliable source of supply of reserve officers.

III. Will the War Department detail officers of the Army, either active or retired, for the giving of military instruction in the colleges?—Answer. During the war the War Department will use retired officers. Active officers will be withdrawn at the end of the present academic year. The law does not permit the detail of any but Regular Army officers. The War Department does not favor any change in the law. Whether active officers temporarily unfit for active service will be used at colleges is a matter that must be taken up after military operations have produced that class of officers.

IV. 1. Will the War Department issue regulation or other uniforms to colleges maintaining approved military training?—Answer. Not until the war is over.

2. Will the War Department issue other than regulation uniforms to colleges maintaining approved military training?—Answer. If issued at all, in peace or in war, the uniform will be the regulation pattern.

3. Will the War Department approve of the providing of other than regulation uniforms at their own expense for undergraduates taking military instruction in the colleges?—Answer. General Orders No. 49 already permit special uniforms. There is no intention to change this provision.

4. Will the War Department, if unable to supply uniforms, furnish to the several institutions the money equivalent for the purchase of other than regulation uniforms locally or reimburse the colleges for the cost of the same at the beginning of the next fiscal year?—Answer. The law recently enacted permits the War Department to commute the uniform allowance of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps, but this law can not be made operative at this time for the reason that the entire manufacturing output of the country is required for the military forces.

The War Department is not allowed to prevent others from entering the market at this time.

V. Will the War Department issue arms to colleges maintaining approved military training?—Answer. Suspended for the duration of the war.

VI. Will the War Department issue equipment to colleges maintaining approved military training?—Answer. Suspended for the duration of the war.

VII. Will the War Department in any way provide for military instruction in colleges having less than 100 physically able male students enrolled for it?—Answer. Yes; but not in the Reserve Officers' Training Corps.

VIII. Will the War Department approve of three hours per week through the first and second years and five hours per week during the third and fourth years of the college course as a satisfactory minimum amount of time to be devoted to military training in the colleges; if not, what minimum is approved?—Answer. The hours mentioned are now the prescribed minimum for the Reserve Officers' Training Corps. There is no present intention to increase the minimum.

IX. Will the War Department recognize and approve of the establishment of summer training camps by educational institutions?—Answer. It is believed that the War Department has no authority to recognize summer camp training as substantially equivalent to the camp training prescribed for the Reserve Officers' Training Corps unless the camp is maintained by the War Department under section 48 of the national defense act. The other college camps are voluntary. It is not understood that the recognition and approval of the War Department is necessary to their success.

SUGGESTED MODIFICATIONS OF CURRICULA.

The committee appointed at the preceding meeting to consider the possible adaptation of college studies to the needs of women in time of war presented the following report, which was unanimously adopted:

ADAPTATION OF COURSES FOR YOUNG WOMEN, TO EQUIP THEM THE BETTER FOR WARTIME SERVICE.

In answer to inquiries received from various colleges regarding the possible adaptation of their courses for the better equipment of young women for service in this time of war, the education section suggests the following as desirable lines of training, to be given either as part of the curriculum or as instruction supplemental to the regular college course:

1. In institutions having any considerable number of young women students, opportunity should be given for them to take home economics studies, including laboratory work in cooking, preservation of food, and sewing and suitable instruction in other home duties. Special emphasis should be given to instruction in reference to thrift.

2. Opportunity should be given for young women to take Red Cross work, including home nursing.

3. Opportunity should be given for young women to prepare themselves to take clerical positions, positions in stores and offices and certain positions where light work is done in manufacturing plants, so that men, especially farm-trained men occupying these positions, may be released temporarily to assist in farm work.

4. Opportunity should be given to young women who are preparing to teach in the public schools, to obtain training in nature study and in practical gardening so that they may give elemental instruction in these subjects.

Dr. Guy Stanton Ford, dean of the graduate school of the University of Minnesota, and at present a member of the Committee on Public Information and also of the National Board of Historical Service, was added to the list of members of the education section.

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